

Message Text

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64

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /081 W

----- 052401

R 210305Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8354

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USUN NEW YORK 1225

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

COMUSSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 15509

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MILI, CB

SUBJECT: MORE KC CONSERVATISM ON DRY SEASON PROSPECTS

REFS: (A) PHNOM PENH 14934

(B) PHNOM PENH 15458 (KHMER REPORT, NOV. 19, 1974)

(C) FBIS BANGKOK 191619Z NOV 74 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE NOTED IN REFTELS A AND B WHAT STRIKES US AS A
NOTEWORTHY LACK OF CONFIDENCE AND BRAGGADOCIO IN KC PROPAGANDA
ESTIMATES (INCLUDING KHIEU SAMPHAN STATEMENTS) OF THE UPCOM-
ING DRY SEASON. REF C, A FUNK RADIO BROADCAST IN CAMBODIAN
TO CAMBODIA, PRESENTS EVEN MORE STRIKING CONFIRMATION
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OF THIS TREND.

2. THE BROADCAST STATES THAT THE GKR WAS UNABLE TO
DISENGAGE ITSELF MILITARY FROM ITS "STATE OF AGONY"
DURING THE RAINY SEASON AND GOES ON TO COMMENT THAT
"IT WILL BE EVEN MORE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO DO THIS
IN THE 1974-75 DRY SEASON AND THE MORE SO IN THE 1975
RAINY SEASON". A SIMILAR FORMULATION IS USED TO
DESCRIBE THE ECONOMIC SITUATION, I.E. THE GKR WILL
"COLLAPSE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE ABYSS" IN THE DRY
SEASON AND THE 1975 RAINY SEASON.

3. COMMENT: THIS EXPLICIT ADMISSION THAT THE GKR
WILL STILL BE A GOING CONCERN (THOUGH IN BAD SHAPE)
IN THE 1975 RAINY SEASON IS UNUSUAL.
AS WE HAVE NOTED BEFORE, KC PROPAGANDA CAN CHANGE TONE
QUICKLY, BUT AT PRESENT IT IS AS DEFENSIVE AND MODEST AS WE
CAN RECALL. END COMMENT.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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